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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Bulgaria

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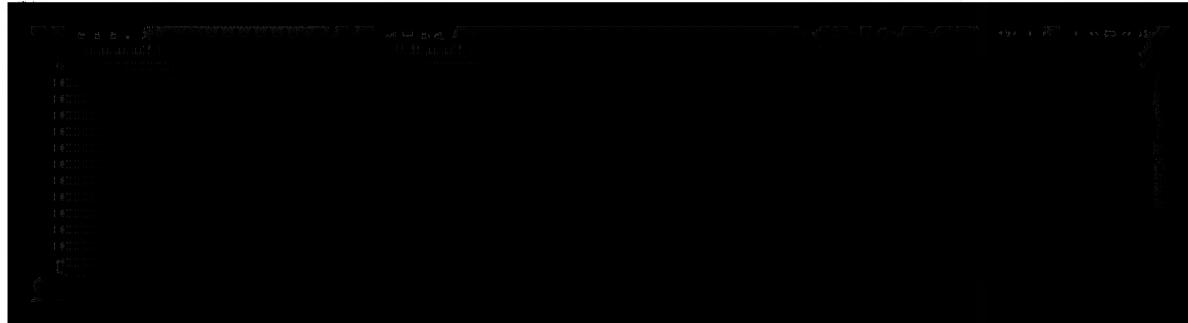
SUBJECT Abandonment of the Bulgarian Five Year Plan

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1. The Bulgarian Five Year Plan, which was announced in 1948, is reported to have been more or less abandoned as a result of a change in Russian intentions for the country. The industrialization program has to all intents and purposes been cancelled. The only major building project still on the books is one for a nitrogenous fertilizer plant. The electrification program has also been drastically cut.
2. Since the date of the Yugoslav defection Russia would seem to have adopted a policy of converting Bulgaria into an agricultural province of the USSR. Orders have been issued for the Bulgarian Government to exert increased pressure on the peasantry to secure a fulfillment of the bread grain quotas. Although Bulgaria was heavily hit by the 1950 drought, she has had to deliver grain to the USSR to repay the Soviet grain deliveries of the first post-war years.
3. The Bulgarian annual production plan for ores and concentrates was only 31.4 percent fulfilled at the end of the third quarter of 1950. The quota for metallurgical products was only 42.5 percent fulfilled for the same period, while the quota for shoes was only 43.9 percent fulfilled.
4. All leading positions within the Bulgarian economy are reported to be filled by Soviet citizens. The general Sovietization trend has been confirmed by a recent decree granting all Soviet citizens in Bulgaria rights identical with those enjoyed by Bulgarian citizens.

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